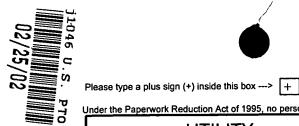
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02-28-07

Approved for use through 09/30/2000. OMB 0651-0 Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERC

Reijo K. Salminen

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UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b)) Express Mail Label No.

First Inventor or Application Identifier

CONTINUOUS DIGESTER

Attorney Docket No.

EV078101378US

Assistant Commissioner for Patents **APPLICATION ELEMENTS** ADDRESS TO: **Box Patent Application** See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents Washington DC 20211 *Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTOISBI17) Microfiche Computer Program (Appendix) (Submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing) 6. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (preferred arrangement set forth below) (if applicable, all necessary) Computer Readable Copy - Descriptive title of the Invention Cross References to Related Applications Paper Copy (identical to computer copy) - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D C. Statement verifying identity of above copies - Reference to Microfiche Appendix - Background of the Invention **ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS** - Brief Summary of the Invention Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s)) 7 - Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed) 37 C.F.R.§3.73(b) Statement - Detailed Description 8 (when there is an assignee) Attorney - Claim(s) 9 English Translation Document (if applicable) Abstract of the Disclosure Information Disclosure Copies of IDS 10. Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets Citations Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 **Preliminary Amendment** 4. Oath or Declaration 1 Total Pages Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) 12. Newly executed (original or copy) (Should be specifically itemized) Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d)) Small Entity Statement filed in prior application, Statement(s) Status still proper and desired (for continuation/divisional with Box 16 completed) **DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)** Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) Signed statement attached deleting (if foreign priority is claimed) inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b). Transmittal Letter w/ Express Other: 15 l Mail Cert. 16. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment: of prior application No: 09/882,789| Continuation Divisional Continuation-in -part (CIP) Group I Art Unit 1731 Prior application in formation: Examiner T. Nguyen For CONTINUATION or DIVISIONAL APPS only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 4b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts. 17. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS Correspondence address below Customer Number or Bar Code Label (Insert Customer No or Attach bar code label here) Name HUGHES LAW FIRM, PLLC 2801 Meridian St. Suite 201 Address 98225 WA Bellingham Zip Code State City (360) 647-1296 (360) 671-2489 Fax U.S. Telephone Country 19,304 Robert B. Hughes Registration No. (AttomeylAgent) Name (Print/Type) February 25, 2002 Hura Date

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PATENT, TRADEMARK & COPYRIGHT LAW

Assistant Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D.C. 20231

February 25, 2002 Docket No. P114070

Sir:

ROBERT B. HUGHES

MICHAEL F. HUGHES

Transmitted herewith for filing is a Continuation Patent Application of U.S.S.N. 09/882,789 filed 06/14/01; which is a Continuation Patent Application of U.S.S.N. 09/141,466 vision of U.S.S.N. 08/939,595 filed 08/27/1998; which is a Continuation Patent Application of U.S.S.N. 08/939,595 filed 9/29/1997; which is a Continuation Patent Application of U.S.S.N. 08/672,458 filed 06/28/1996 (now U.S. Patent Number 5,680,995); which is based on and claims priority benefit of U.S. Provisional Serial No. 60/004,474 filed 09/28/1995; which is based on and claims priority benefit of U.S. Provisional Serial No. 60/000,830 filed 06/29/1995.

Applicant(s):

Mr. Reijo K. Salminen

Title:

CONTINUOUS DIGESTER

- a) Certificate of Express Mailing requesting treatment under 37 CFR 1.10, Express 1. Enclosed are: Mail Filing Date of February 25, 2002, Label No. EV078101378US;
 - b) 1-page Utility Patent Application Transmittal;
 - d) 4-page copy of Executed Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney from c) 1-page Fee Transmittal;

 - Copy of Specification, claims and abstract (103 pages total: 88 pages of specification, 14 pages of claims, 1 page of abstract) from Parent Application; e) 1-page Preliminary Amendment; g) Copy of 44 sheets of drawings from Parent Application;
 - h) A check in the amount of \$370.00 for filing fee; and

 - A stamped return receipt postcard.

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 C.F.R. §1.10

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service, Express Mail Post Office to Addressee, in an envelope express wall rust Office to Addressee, it all envelope addressed to BOX PATENT APPLICATION, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on the date shown below.

Express Mail No: EX078101378US

Signature:

Print Name: Toni Krieger DATE MAILED: February 25, 2002



PTO/SB/17 (6/99)

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TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT	\$370.00	Attorney Docket No.	P114070				

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Name (Print/Type) Robert B. Hughes (Attorney/Agent) February 25, 26	1 - 1 D II.	(Attorney/Agent)		Fohru			
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PTO-1556 (5/87)

*U.S. GPO: 2000-468-987/39595